

will be more apparent when the National Gallery is built. I can never look at the College in question without regretting that the design was not Grecian. A portico, however plain, would have suited the site and adjacent buildings much better than the present tame inelegant Elizabethan towers. We find that the Greeks invariably chose a height for their temples, and the site is one of the best in town for a building of that description. Want of elevation mars the effect of some of our best classical designs.

Mr. Park is exhibiting his colossal statue of Wallace: he is represented nude: his right hand rests on the great sword of the period, his left clutching the mane of the lion of Scotland, which, though greatly irritated, is amenable to control: at his back hangs the round Scottish shield, to be used, as its motto bears, "in defence:" he is crowned with a profusion of laurel. The countenance, expressing self-confidence and disdain for his enemies, is fine; but it appears to me that the muscles of the body are hardly enough developed, and that the legs of the warrior are rather short to be handsome. The work, as a whole, is a fine piece of imaginative sculpture. It is as yet only in plaster; and should it be executed in a more durable material, the sculptor will, no doubt, improve upon it. We hope to see it some day adorning one of the public gardens of our city. DUN-EDIN.

Books.

Hand-Book for Visitors to Harrow-on-the-Hill, with a Directory, &c. Edited by T. SMITH. Wright, Pall-mall.

It is rather singular that till now no separate book devoted to the history and topography of a place so celebrated as Harrow, should have been published. One would have thought that even as a labour of love, and a source of pleasant memories, some of the minor ornaments of its far-famed school at least would have executed long ere now so refreshing a task. We know not whether the present editor be a Harrovian; but if not, those who were or are, and indeed the public in general, are only the more indebted to him for the gift, which we doubt not will also be prized and made good use of by many of the forthcoming foreign visitors at Britannia's grand industrial levee.

Murray's Modern Cookery Book: based on the well known work of Mrs. Rundell, but with all recent improvements, and founded on economical principles and practice, for private families. By a LADY. Murray, Albemarle-street, 1851.

PROFESSING, as we do, to deal with the homes of all, and sensible, moreover, that an essential part of the constructive skill and shilliness even of architects and builders, consists in laying in a periodical stock of substantial materials in order faithfully to carry out the physical design of the great architect, as displayed in their own temporal construction, it is quite within our comprehensive province to recommend a good cookery-book, and such this will really be found. It is full of sage instruction and advice, not only on the economical and savoury preparation of gastronomic materials, but on subjects of domestic management in general. A more quiet and excellent way to introduce order and economy along with the legitimate pleasures of the domestic meal into all such establishments as may require these essentials, we could not suggest than simply to hand this little work over to the mistress of the house. In turning it over, she would sometimes hit upon what was not sought for, even though very much required. And salutary advice so incidentally and suddenly presented is often far more effectual than when more formally given. The study of it might not be useless to some of the damsels whom we have mentioned elsewhere as filling the Society of Arts last week. It is a pity, as the sensible authoress of this useful work remarks, that "young ladies of our time pride themselves upon knowing nothing whatever concerning those duties which most assuredly ought to be

deemed essential in the mistress of a family and taught as a branch of education." And the head of the family himself has more to do with his helpmate's abilities in this respect than merely in an epicurean sense, for "perhaps there are few occasions on which the respectability of a man is more immediately felt than in the style of dinner to which he may accidentally bring home a visitor," and an appropriate style is not to be attained with mere money or expenditure, but much more effectually by economy with skill. Not alone however by those who need this advice—the "baby-wives"—the few, but by those who can and do manage a house with honour and elegance—the many,—this book will be found a very useful reference.

Building Societies' Directory.

A DIRECTORY and Almanack for 1851; with a Diary of Dates of Subscription, and a Directory of Life Offices, has just been issued by Effingham Wilson, of the Royal Exchange, for the use of all interested in Building Societies. It is an improvement on the last, and must be very useful to those for whose convenience it is designed.

Miscellaneous.

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC.—The old company are still pursuing the monopolistic system, it appears, as Mr. Ricardo, the chairman, acknowledged, under cross-examination before the Privy Council, on the recent refusal of the latter to renew their first patent, that he is "making exertions to secure a monopoly on the London and North-Western Railway, to continue for a term of twenty years." There is a shade rather too strong of the overreaching policy in such an attempt to throw the new company on its beam-ends. Crooked tactics such as this are by no means likely to meet with public patronage or approval, however knowing and masterly they may be in their own peculiar style of business. It was elicited in the same cross-examination of the chairman that he could not account for the fact of the price of messages being lower in America than here: in other words, that he could give no reason or apology for his own company's high charges.

THE DERBY WATER SUPPLY.—When the surgeon fails we apply to the physician. To carry out the parallel, when the local press fails we must fly to "THE BUILDER;" and glad I am to see that it is usually effectual. Mr. Hawkesley states in your last week's Journal, that the information relative to the Derby Waterworks Company, given in a former paper, was incorrect. Without wishing to open a controversy, I may be allowed to demur to this. Three weeks since an application was made to the company's office for a schedule of prices by a landlord who wished to lay their water on to several houses. No inquiry was made by the official as to *rent of houses*, but 16s. at once stated as the terms for a tap for domestic purposes, and 1s. 6d. per quarter additional for a water-closet. The charge being thought monstrous, no further notice was taken of it. Some builders, however, afterwards complained of the same during a conversation with this party, and predicted speedy failure of the company, unless houses of the labouring classes were enabled to partake freely of its advantages by charges which they could well meet. Letters appeared in the local papers (since the above occurrence) respecting the *hardship* to that class who most required the water; and at a meeting of the Derby town council, the subject was also mentioned. No notice being taken of these letters and murmurings, either by the company or their engineer, your reporter mentioned the bare fact in a corner of your Journal, when he was much gratified to behold so speedily and satisfactory a reply. While, however, he thanks Mr. H. for the information, we can assure him that it is news to the Derby folks, who were profoundly ignorant of such an arrangement as this being either in existence or contemplation.

YOUR REPORTER.

LIVERPOOL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—At the usual fortnightly meeting of this society, held on the 19th ult., Mr. Arthur Holmes occupied the chair. A short conversation took place on the subject of desecrating timber. It was suggested that a portion of the time at the next meeting should be devoted to considering the proper situation for the organ in St. George's-hall. Mr. H. P. Horner adverted to a competition going forward amongst the profession for a design for the proposed Palatine Club, and deprecated the suggestion for the use of stucco in the place of brick or stone. Mr. Boulton, in reference to the same subject, expressed himself very strongly against the encouragement of competition such as that alluded to. It was, in his opinion, calculated to degrade the profession, whose services were obtained, by that means, at one-third their proper value. A discussion next took place relative to the durability of Bath stone in buildings. Mr. H. Dracott, of St. Helens, read a paper on the "Manufacture of Blown Glass." Alluding to the works at St. Helens, he said that between 800 and 900 workpeople were employed there, and they had a school for the education of the boys, attended by 117 pupils.

MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.—The building committee having discussed the plans and estimates for alterations in the building to be adapted to the purposes of the library and museum, and addressed the general committee in a resolution,—"Notwithstanding the large amount required to complete the building, the sub-committee, after due consideration, recommend that the plans now submitted be adopted, and that no time be lost in carrying out the design in its fullest integrity,"—the general committee have ordered that specifications and working drawings be prepared as soon as possible, and that tenders be requested from a limited number of builders. The subscriptions have already reached to upwards of 8,000l.; and at one meeting only of the general committee, no less than 181 volumes were presented, many of them in small parcels by working men—joiners and others.

BEVERLY MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On Tuesday in last week, Mr. John Leng, of Hull, read a paper entitled "The history of Beverley Minster, and the desirableness of completing the central tower," in course of which it was stated that the estates vested in the hands of trustees for repair of the fabric and payment of stipends, now produced, after payment of stipends, repairs of estates, and other expenses, about 700l. a year net, and that there was an accumulated fund at the moment amounting to about 3,000l. At present that sum lay useless and unseen in the cellars of the Bank of England, and why (asked the lecturer) should it not assume a form of enduring beauty in the completion of that sacred edifice for the benefit of which it was bequeathed? There was a strong probability that the Court of Chancery might be disposed to make the present accumulated fund available for the purpose of completing the central tower.

TESTIMONIAL BY THE ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY.—It is stated that the President and members of the Royal Scottish Academy have resolved to request the Lord Provost of Edinburgh to sit for a full-length portrait of his lordship, at an acknowledgment of his services in promoting the erection of the National Gallery on the Mound. The execution of the work has been committed to Sir John Waite Gordon, R.A. The portrait is to occupy a conspicuous place in the new gallery of the Academy.

THE SMITHFIELD-MARKET REMOVAL BILL.—On Saturday the Bill brought into the House of Commons by the Government for the removal of Smithfield-market was printed. The preamble states, "Whereas for preventing the evils attendant on the holding of the market now holden in Smithfield, it is desirable that in lieu thereof a more spacious cattle-market, with a meat-market and conveniences connected therewith, should be provided in a suitable place more distant from the centre of the metropolis." There are 37 clauses in the Bill.